

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAM-01 SP-02 AID-05 EB-07 NSC-05

CIEP-01 TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-04 OMB-01 CEA-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01

USIA-06 COME-00 FRB-03 XMB-02 OPIC-03 LAB-04 SIL-01

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R 171042Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 756

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

C O N F I D E N T I A L COPENHAGEN 1086

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, EC, PO, DA

SUBJECT: EC FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETING; PORTUGAL

1. ACTING POLITICAL DIRECTOR OLE BIERRING TOLD DCM
APRIL 16 THAT THE EC FOREIGN MINISTERS HAD DEVOTED A
GOOD DEAL OF ATTENTION TO PORTUGAL IN THEIR LUXEMBOURG
DISCUSSIONS EARLIER THIS WEEK. WITHOUT GOING INTO DETAIL
HE SAID THAT THE MINISTERS HAD AGREED THAT THEY SHOULD
"OPEN UP" FOR FURTHER COOPERATION WITH PORTUGAL. THEY
WOULD CONTINUE THIS POLICY AFTER THE APRIL 25 ELECTIONS
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"IF THERE STILL EXISTS AN ELEMENT OF DEMOCRACY" IN

PORTUGAL AND DESPITE THEIR LACK OF ENTHUSIASM FOR A MILITARY GOVERNMENT.

2. BIERRING SAID THIS WAS THE POLICY, BUT THE PROBLEM WAS HOW TO IMPLEMENT IT. THERE HAD BEEN SOME CONSIDERATION GIVEN TO THE POSSIBILITY OF WORKING WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE PRESENT AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE EC AND PORTUGAL. IN THAT CONNECTION, HE SAID, THE PORTUGUESE HAD INDICATED THEY WOULD LIKE TO ENLARGE THE SCOPE OF THEIR RELATIONS WITH THE EC, PARTICULARLY IN THE FINANCIAL AREA.

3. COMMENT: THERE WILL PROBABLY HAVE TO BE CONSIDERABLY MORE DISCUSSION AMONG THE NINE BEFORE THEY CAN DECIDE IF THERE IS ANYTHING VERY CONCRETE THEY CAN DO FOR PORTUGAL IN THE SHORT RUN. GIVEN THE SOFTNESS OF THE RECENT DANISH APPROACH TO THE PORTUGUESE, WHICH HAS NOW BEEN PUBLICLY REVEALED HERE, IT IS LIKELY THAT THE DANES WOULD BE HESITANT TO SUPPORT ANY FURTHER POLITICAL DEMARCHE BY THE EC OR TO UNDERTAKE ANOTHER ONE THEMSELVES. NOR WILL THE CURRENT NATIONALIZATION MEASURES BEING UNDERTAKEN IN PORTUGAL MAKE IT ANY EASIER TO ENCOURAGE BROAD SUPPORT FOR FURTHER INVESTMENT THERE.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 APR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MartinML
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975COPENH01086
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750134-1131
From: COPENHAGEN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750439/aaaabkep.tel
Line Count: 85
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: MartinML
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <17 APR 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <17 SEP 2003 by MartinML>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: EC FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETING: PORTUGAL
TAGS: PFOR, PO, DA, EEC
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006